

Appln. No. 10/764,395
Amendment dated November 1, 2004
Reply to Office Action mailed July 1, 2004

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims (deleted text being struck through and added text being underlined):

- 1 1. (Currently Amended) A food serving container for keeping food
- 2 articles chilled, the food serving container comprising:
- 3 an exterior bowl member ~~being adapted~~ for being positioned on a
- 4 support surface;
- 5 a cooling member being selectively positioned against an interior
- 6 surface of said exterior bowl member, said cooling member being ~~adapted~~
- 7 ~~for~~ capable of being frozen; and
- 8 an interior bowl member being selectively coupled to said exterior
- 9 bowl member to form a chamber between said interior bowl member and said
- 10 exterior bowl member such that said cooling member is positioned in said
- 11 chamber between said interior bowl member and said external bowl member
- 12 when said cooling member is positioned against said exterior bowl member
- 13 and said interior bowl member is coupled to said exterior bowl member, said
- 14 interior bowl member being substantially concave ~~such that said interior~~
- 15 ~~bowl member is adapted~~ for receiving the food articles, said cooling member
- 16 ~~being adapted for~~ cooling the food articles in said interior bowl member to
- 17 inhibit spoiling of the food articles positioned in said interior bowl member;
- 18 a lid member removably mountable on said interior bowl member and
- 19 said exterior bowl member, a serving aperture extending through said lid
- 20 member such that contents of said interior bowl member is accessible
- 21 without removing any portion of said lid member from mounting on said
- 22 bowl members.

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1 2. (Currently Amended) The food serving container as set forth in
2 claim 1, further comprising:

3 said exterior bowl member comprising a peripheral wall, said
4 peripheral wall defining an closed interior space of said exterior bowl
5 member, said interior space of said exterior bowl member being isolated
6 from said cooling member when said cooling member is positioned between
7 said interior bowl member and said exterior bowl member for insulating said
8 cooling member from heat transferring through said peripheral wall of said
9 exterior bowl member.

1 3. (Original) The food serving container as set forth in claim 2,
2 further comprising:

3 said interior space of said exterior bowl member containing an
4 insulating fluid, said insulating fluid being for inhibiting thermal transfer
5 through said exterior bowl member.

1 4. (Original) The food serving container as set forth in claim 3,
2 further comprising:

3 said insulating fluid comprising a substantially inert gas, said
4 substantially inert gas providing insulation for said cooling member to
5 insulate said cooling member from heat outside of said exterior bowl
6 member.

1 5. (Original) The food serving container as set forth in claim 1,
2 further comprising:

3 said exterior bowl member comprising a lip member extending
4 inwardly from a top edge of said exterior bowl member, said interior bowl
5 member comprising an indentation extending into said interior bowl member
6 from a peripheral edge of said interior bowl member, said indentation of
7 said interior bowl member selectively receiving said lip member of said

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8 exterior bowl member to selectively secure said interior bowl member to
9 said exterior bowl member.

1 6. (Original) The food serving container as set forth in claim 1,
2 further comprising:

3 said cooling member comprising a perimeter wall, said perimeter wall
4 defining a plurality of compartments of said cooling member, each of said
5 compartments being for containing a gelatinous compound, said gelatinous
6 compound being adapted for being frozen such that said gelatinous
7 compound is for chilling the food articles positioned in said interior bowl
8 member.

1 7. (Original) The food serving container as set forth in claim 6,
2 further comprising:

3 said compartments of said cooling member comprising a base
4 compartment and a plurality of wall compartments, said base compartment
5 being positioned adjacent a base portion of said exterior bowl member when
6 said cooling member is positioned against said exterior bowl member, said
7 wall compartments of said cooling member being radially positioned around
8 said base compartment such that said wall compartments are positioned
9 against a wall portion of said exterior bowl member when said cooling
10 member is positioned against said exterior bowl member.

8. (Cancelled)

1 9. (Currently Amended) The food serving container as set forth in
2 claim [[[8]]] 1, further comprising:

3 said lid member comprising a hook portion extending downwardly
4 from a perimeter edge of said lid member, said hook portion selectively
5 extending over a peripheral edge of said interior bowl member to secure
6 said lid member to said interior bowl member when said lid member is
7 coupled to said interior bowl member.

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1 10. (Currently Amended) The food serving container as set forth in
2 claim [[[8]]] 1, further comprising:

3 ~~said lid member comprising a serving aperture extending through said~~
4 ~~lid member, said serving aperture permitting access to said interior bowl~~
5 ~~member such that said serving aperture is adapted for permitting the food~~
6 ~~articles to be retrieved from said interior bowl member when said lid~~
7 ~~member is coupled to said interior bowl member~~ means for selectively
8 closing said serving aperture on said lid member, said means for closing
9 having a closed position and an open position.

1 11. (Currently Amended) The food serving container as set forth in
2 claim [[[10]]] 1, further comprising:

3 a cover assembly being coupled to said lid member, said cover
4 assembly being selectively positioned over said serving aperture of said lid
5 member such that said cover assembly ~~is adapted for~~ is movable between a
6 closed position and an open position, said open position permitting access
7 to food articles in said interior bowl member through said serving aperture,
8 said closed position selectively limiting access to the food articles in said
9 interior bowl member ~~when said cover assembly is positioned over said~~
10 ~~serving aperture of said lid member~~ through said serving aperture.

1 12. (Original) The food serving container as set forth in claim 11,
2 further comprising:

3 said cover assembly comprising a dome member and a shell member,
4 said dome member being coupled to said lid member such that said dome
5 member is positioned over a portion of said serving aperture of said lid
6 member, said shell member being pivotally coupled to said lid member such
7 that said shell member is for selectively covering the portion of said serving
8 aperture not covered by said dome member, said shell member being nested
9 with said dome member to permit access to said serving aperture when said
10 shell member is pivoted with respect to said lid member.

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1 13. (Currently Amended) The food serving container as set forth in
2 claim 12, further comprising:

3 said dome member of said cover assembly being substantially
4 hemispherical shaped, said shell member of said cover assembly being
5 substantially hemispherical shaped, said shell member ~~comprising~~ having a
6 radius less than a radius of said dome member such that said shell member
7 ~~pivots under~~ is pivotable inside said dome member when said shell member
8 is pivoted with respect to said lid member.

1 14. (Currently Amended) A food serving container for keeping food
2 articles chilled, the food serving container comprising:

3 an exterior bowl member being adapted for being positioned on a
4 support surface;

5 a cooling member being selectively positioned against an interior
6 surface of said exterior bowl member, said cooling member being adapted
7 for being frozen;

8 an interior bowl member being selectively coupled to said exterior
9 bowl member to form a chamber between said interior bowl member and said
10 exterior bowl member such that said cooling member is positioned between
11 said interior bowl member and said external bowl member when said cooling
12 member is positioned against said exterior bowl member and said interior
13 bowl member is coupled to said exterior bowl member, said interior bowl
14 member being substantially concave ~~such that said interior bowl member is~~
15 ~~adapted for receiving the food articles, said cooling member being adapted~~
16 ~~for cooling the food articles in said interior bowl member to inhibit spoiling~~
17 of the food articles positioned in said interior bowl member;

18 a lid member removably mountable on said interior bowl member and
19 said exterior bowl member, a serving aperture extending through said lid
20 member such that contents of said interior bowl member is accessible
21 without removing any portion of said lid member from mounting on said
22 bowl members;

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23 said exterior bowl member comprising a peripheral wall, said
24 peripheral wall defining ~~an~~ closed interior space of said exterior bowl
25 member, said interior space of said exterior bowl member being isolated
26 from said cooling member when said cooling member is positioned between
27 said interior bowl member and said exterior bowl member for insulating said
28 cooling member from heat transferring through said peripheral wall of said
29 exterior bowl member;

30 said interior space of said exterior bowl member containing an
31 insulating fluid, said insulating fluid being for inhibiting thermal transfer
32 through said exterior bowl member;

33 said insulating fluid comprising a substantially inert gas, said
34 substantially inert gas providing insulation for said cooling member to
35 insulate said cooling member from heat outside of said exterior bowl
36 member;

37 said exterior bowl member comprising a lip member extending
38 inwardly from a top edge of said exterior bowl member, said interior bowl
39 member comprising an indentation extending into said interior bowl member
40 from a peripheral edge of said interior bowl member, said indentation of
41 said interior bowl member selectively receiving said lip member of said
42 exterior bowl member to selectively secure said interior bowl member to
43 said exterior bowl member;

44 said cooling member comprising a perimeter wall, said perimeter wall
45 defining a plurality of compartments of said cooling member, each of said
46 compartments being for containing a gelatinous compound, said gelatinous
47 compound being adapted for being frozen such that said gelatinous
48 compound is for chilling the food articles positioned in said interior bowl
49 member; and

50 said compartments of said cooling member comprising a base
51 compartment and a plurality of wall compartments, said base compartment
52 being positioned adjacent a base portion of said exterior bowl member when
53 said cooling member is positioned against said exterior bowl member, said

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54 wall compartments of said cooling member being radially positioned around
55 said base compartment such that said wall compartments are positioned
56 against a wall portion of said exterior bowl member when said cooling
57 member is positioned against said exterior bowl member.

15. (Cancelled)

1 16. (Currently Amended) The food serving container as set forth in
2 claim [[[15]]] 14, further comprising:

3 said lid member comprising a hook portion extending downwardly
4 from a perimeter edge of said lid member, said hook portion selectively
5 extending over said peripheral edge of said interior bowl member to secure
6 said lid member to said interior bowl member when said lid member is
7 coupled to said interior bowl member.

1 17. (Currently Amended) The food serving container as set forth in
2 claim [[[15]]] 14, further comprising:

3 ~~said lid member comprising a serving aperture extending through said~~
4 ~~lid member, said serving aperture permitting access to said interior bowl~~
5 ~~member such that said serving aperture is adapted for permitting the food~~
6 ~~articles to be retrieved from said interior bowl member when said lid~~
7 ~~member is coupled to said interior bowl member~~ means for selectively
8 closing said serving aperture on said lid member, said means for closing
9 having a closed position and an open position.

1 18. (Currently Amended) The food serving container as set forth in
2 claim [[[17]]] 14, further comprising:

3 a cover assembly being coupled to said lid member, said cover
4 assembly being ~~selectively~~ positioned over said serving aperture of said lid
5 member such that said cover assembly ~~is adapted for~~ is movable between a
6 closed position and an open position, said open position permitting access
7 to food articles in said interior bowl member through said serving aperture.

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8 said closed position selectively limiting access to the food articles in said
9 interior bowl member ~~when said cover assembly is positioned over said~~
10 ~~serving aperture of said lid member~~ through said serving aperture.

1 19. (Original) The food serving container as set forth in claim 18,
2 further comprising:

3 said cover assembly comprising a dome member and a shell member,
4 said dome member being coupled to said lid member such that said dome
5 member is positioned over a portion of said serving aperture of said lid
6 member, said shell member being pivotally coupled to said lid member such
7 that said shell member is for selectively covering the portion of said serving
8 aperture not covered by said dome member, said shell member being nested
9 with said dome member to permit access to said serving aperture when said
10 shell member is pivoted with respect to said lid member.

1 20. (Currently Amended) The food serving container as set forth in
2 claim 19, further comprising:

3 said dome member of said cover assembly being substantially
4 hemispherical shaped, said shell member of said cover assembly being
5 substantially hemispherical shaped, said shell member ~~comprising~~ having a
6 radius less than a radius of said dome member such that said shell member
7 ~~pivots under~~ is pivotable inside said dome member when said shell member
8 is pivoted with respect to said lid member.

1 21. (New) The food serving container as set forth in claim 1, wherein
2 said interior bowl member is positionable completely within said exterior
3 bowl member.

1 22. (New) The food serving container as set forth in claim 11,
2 wherein said lid member is substantially planar, and said cover member
3 protrudes outwardly from the plane of said lid member.